UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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OCT 17 2000

Judge THOMAS F. HOG

In Re: Vitamins Antitrust Litigation

MISC. No. 99-0197: (TFH)

This Document Relates To:

MDL No. 1285

Blue Seal Feeds, Inc., et al. v. Akzo Nobel, Inc., et al. (99-2683 TFH) OCT 1 9 2000 Let WHITTINGTON, CLEAN U.S. DISTRICT COURT

STIPULATION FOR DISMISSAL WITH PREJUDICE OF CLAIMS AGAINST E. MERCK, MERCK KGaA AND EM INDUSTRIES, INC.

In accordance with Rule 41 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Welch Foods, Inc., A Cooperative ("Plaintiff") and Defendants E. Merck, Merck KGaA and EM Industries, Inc. ("Merck") stipulate and agree to the dismissal, with prejudice, of Plaintiff's claims in the above-captioned Lawsuit against Merck only. This dismissal with prejudice is without prejudice to Plaintiff's claims against any other Defendants or alleged co-conspirators in the above-captioned cases.

A proposed Order of Dismissal With Prejudice accompanies this Stipulation as Exhibit 1.

Respectfully submitted,

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-- and -

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MANCY MAYER-WHITTINGTON, CLER U.S. DISTRICT COURT

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ORDER OF DISMISSAL WITH PREJUDICE OF CLAIMS AGAINST E. MERCK, MERCK KG2A AND EM INDUSTRIES, INC.

Ordered that the foregoing stipulation of Plaintiff Welch Foods and Defendants E. Merck, Merck KGaA and EM Industries, Inc. to dismiss with prejudice Plaintiffs' claims in the above-captioned cases against Defendants E. Merck, Merck KGaA and EM Industries, Inc. only be and the same is Accepted. Accordingly, the claims in the above-captioned case of Plaintiff Welch Foods against Defendants E. Merck, Merck KGaA and EM Industries, Inc. be and the same are hereby dismissed with prejudice. This Order is without prejudice to Plaintiff Welch Food's claims against any other Defendants or alleged co-conspirators in the above-captioned case.

United States District Judge

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